Hi! My name is Divya and I’m the new VP Alumnae Relations! I’m super excited about my new position and can’t wait to learn more about all of you!

I’m a sophomore majoring in biological engineering and minoring in management. I was born in India and moved to the US when I was five. Since then, I’ve lived in the suburbs of New York City, but now I’m not sure which city I love more--NY or Boston :)

At MIT, I live in Burton Conner, but love going across the river (sometimes just for the amazing walk over the bridge) daily!

If you have any questions or need to get in touch with me, feel free to email me at divyac@mit.edu.

LITB,
Divya
January In Review

As you may remember, January is a pretty chill month at MIT and a time to explore things you may not have time to during the semester! This IAP, AXOs traveled the world, relaxed at home or took part some classic IAP activities at MIT.

IAP Abroad

Katelyn Snyder’11 is studying aboard in Spain and getting the chance to travel to Seville, Granada, Toledo and more! Alicia Kaestli’12 traveled to Israel through Birthright to learn about Israeli and Jewish culture in Israel. Grace Yao’11 travelled to Mantova, Italy this IAP to teach biology and chemistry to high school students. Julie Harrow’12 is doing the same in Milan! Funny story: they were both actually almost stopped by customs in Amsterdam, but they put on their most honest-looking expressions and passport control had to let them through!

Connie Lu’11 was in Nicaragua working on improving the municipal solid waste management system in Nicaragua. If her group’s project proposal is accepted, the project will be implemented by the UN Development Program and the Inter-American Development Bank!

IAP @ MIT

At MIT, sisters did a variety of activities to stay busy! Chelsea Finn’14, Joanie Weaver’14 and Nifer Fasman’13 are all taking an EE lab class. Chelsea Finn’14 is also working as an administrative assistant at Parents Forum, a nonprofit organization in Cambridge that focuses on emotional awareness. Michelle Teplensky’14 is UROPing in a chemical engineering lab that focuses on genetic engineering. She’s also

Elise Hens in filtering water in Hawaii!

Alicia Kaestli in Israel!
taking Intro to Weather
Forecasting with
Megan
Kercher’11 and
Katie
Kauffman’12 and
breakdancing
with Yinfu
Chen’14!
Christine
Lai’13 and
Elizabeth
Phillips’13 shadowed a radiation oncologist at Mt. Auburn Hospital, calling the experience “interesting and insightful.” Lizzy Wei’12 also worked in radiation oncology, but at MGH. Monica Isava’13 spent the first half of her IAP refereeing soccer games and enjoying the weather in the only state without snow--Florida! A bunch of sophomores also participated in the Undergraduate Practice Opportunities Program (UPOP), a program that prepares to work in a professional environment and helps them perfect their resume, cover letter and interviewing skills. The program culminates in a summer internship that is usually found through UPOP connections. AXO Course 3s took welding, casting and blacksmithing classes and made some pretty cool things, like a candlestick holder! I would often come home to find Jane Chen-Liang’12 gushing about her time hammering metals into shape. Many Course 2 AXOs took 2.670, a class that introduces students to machine and computer tools. Several AXOs UROPed or took classes such as German I, 18.02A, 8.01L, glass blowing, and PE classes. IAP was a fun, relaxing time, but now we’re all getting ready for the spring semester!

AXOs build a snowman in Killian!

Monica Isava refereeing in Florida!

Michelle Teplensky perfecting her breakdancing moves!

Review Continued
During the spring of my senior year (1993), all of AXO piled into cars to head up to our advisor's parents place in the woods of Maine for a retreat. I had a tiniest hatchback, and we packed 5 of us in there. The route took us on the major roads but then through some not so large highways - and we ended up lost. So we stopped at a gas station to get gas and to ask for directions. I went inside, and the folks working there were very helpful - gave me a map, showed me where to go etcetera. Then I went back outside to gas up. But the pump didn't work... I was like huh? So I went back to the shop... which was locked! Apparently in the minute I was outside, they closed! Oh well... at least we knew what direction to go in. So I got back in the car and headed down the road. When I pulled out of the parking lot, I felt like I hit a pothole or something...but no big deal... car sounded fine, so I just continued.

About 30-40 minutes later, as we are driving down the highway, this car behind me starts flashing it's lights. I start to pull over, but it's late at night and we are 5 young women on a dark, unfamiliar road, and were scared that this person might harm us, so I kept going. A little while later, another car drove by us... and they were hanging out of the car, pointing to our car, and laughing and laughing... hmm...I think it was Karen Schmidt, who was on the passenger side, turned around and looked to the outside of our car to see what they were pointing at... and there, still hanging out of my gas tank, was the gas pump - with about 8 feet of the hose still attached and streaming behind the car. We had been driving down the highway for close to an hour like that.

Needless to say we absolutely lost it laughing... I guess that "pothole" in the road was me pulling the pump out of the gas station. I wonder if they thought I was that mad that they closed abruptly on me?? In reality, I was just a distracted, clueless MIT student.

Now we started getting a little stressed about what to do with the gas hose? Would we get in trouble for this? There was no room for the gas pump and hose in the overcrowded tiny car...but we were really nervous about where to "ditch it".... We drove along some back roads, and my lil sis Liv...definitely not the renegade type, got out of the car and "ditched it" in the woods.... Later we regretted not being able to display it on our mantel...but since Jen asked me to tell you this story, which happened almost 20 years ago, it sounds like this story has become infamous even without proof.

-MARY MOTTO KALICH
AXO '89 MIT '93

If you have a story about AXO that you would like to share, send me an email (divyac@mit.edu)! The stories can be hilarious, like Mary's, heartwarming or any particulary fond memory you have of AXO! I hope to include a story in each issue of the newsletter :)

Christine Sowa ’14
Wait...unicorns don’t exist in England?

Lia DiGiovanna’13
Do you what I would be if I could go back in history, a mongol pony-rider. I would ride that pony across wherever Mongols are from, I think Mongolia. I would cook the other pony's meat with the sweat of my pony.

Vanessa Bowens’13 and Miriam Walker’13
Vanessa: It's Magic School Bus on Google today...
Miriam: It's Rosa Park.
ALUMNAE-CURRENT SISTER CONNECTION
(Yes, this is Harry Potter font. It’s magical.)

ALUMNAE

FROM: VIDA HA
CONTACT: vidaha@alum.mit.edu
Looking for a Course 6-3 major for an internship or full time job in a startup (http://corp.ifeelgoods.com/) in the SF Bay Area. Also willing to offer career advice in Course 6.

FROM: MARGARET LEIBOVIC
CONTACT: margaret.leibovic@gmail.com
Willing to answer questions about a career in Web Technologies/Software Engineering. Also willing to help connect undergrads with internship opportunities at Mozilla.

FROM: KRISTEN WOLFE
CONTACT: kedw@alum.mit.edu
Willing to answer questions or offer advice about becoming a high school teacher.

FROM: RENUKA RAMANATHAN
CONTACT: renukar@uw.edu
Available to answer questions about the graduate school application process, grad life in general or specifically about Bioengineering graduate schools and Course 20 related topics (UROPS, internships, etc).

FROM: ELIZABETH ROSENBLATT
CONTACT: eroesen17@gmail.com
Willing to answer any questions about med school/residency and medicine career advice. Graduating from Hopkins School of Medicine in 2011 and applying into internal medicine residency.

FROM: MELIS ANAHTAR
CONTACT: mna@mit.edu
Willing to answer any questions about medical school, foreign distinguished scholarships (e.g. Rhodes and Marshall), or MD-PhD programs. Currently a second year student in the Harvard-MIT HST MD-PhD program.

FROM: KRISTEN BEREN
CONTACT: kristen.beren@gmail.com
Willing to answer any questions about dental school. Currently a third year at NJDS/

FROM: WENDY PIERCE
CONTACT: wendy.pierce@gmail.com
Willing to answer any questions about getting into medical school and/or residency. Currently a second year orthopaedic resident.

FROM: ANNA MORYS
CONTACT: anna.morys@gmail.com
Willing to answer any questions about applying to medical school. Currently a 3rd Year at Penn Med.

FROM: JULIE PAUL
CONTACT: jpaul@alum.mit.edu
Willing to answer any questions about graduate school and career choices in Chemical Engineering. Ph.D. Student at Tufts University.
FROM: KELLY CAVAZOS
CONTACT: kcaavazos@iw.com
Willing to answer any questions about law school or the legal profession. Went to UT Law and now an associate at a firm in Dallas, TX.

FROM: JOANNE CHANG
CONTACT: joanneca@gmail.com
Willing to answer any questions about business school (Harvard Business School) or consulting.

FROM: TRACY (BACK) EMBREE
CONTACT: tracy.embree@cummins.com
Willing to answer any questions about business school (Harvard Business School MBA ’00), my company (Cummins Inc), or regarding living/working in Indiana.

FROM: NIKKI (JOHNSON) SPRINGER
CONTACT: nikki_johnson@alum.mit.edu
Course IV--willing to answer any questions about Architecture or Urban Planning and also move to China as an American

FROM: MONICA LEWIS
CONTACT: jca@alum.mit.edu
Willing to answer any questions about business school or a career in sustainable design. Currently doing an MBA at Stanford.

FROM: SUE (DEY) LOH
CONTACT: suedey@alum.mit.edu
Willing to answer any questions about course 6, choosing classes, deciding to enter graduate school, and searching for jobs.

FROM: ELIE POWERS-BOYLE
CONTACT: ellie@alum.mit.edu
Happy to answer any questions about living abroad or tips in Europe (specifically London and Paris).

FROM: FRANCES HSIEH
CONTACT: frances@stanfordalumni.org
Willing to answer any questions about consulting, traveling, living in Europe, Stanford and a lot more! Background info available at www.linkedin.com/in/frances

FROM: CAROLINE BARKER
CONTACT: cbarker@mit.edu
Happy to talk to sisters about faith, particularly issues of service, social justice, sexuality, or a future career in ministry and especially with those sisters who do not identify with the Christian faith but have questions. Currently working as a campus minister (associate chaplain) at MIT and also running a spring break trip engaging the topics of faith and social justice, including service and racial reconciliation, for students of all spiritual backgrounds.

ACTIVES

FROM: AMBER STARGROOM
CONTACT: ambers@mit.edu
Looking for anyone that can offer advice on law school and/or law careers.
A LUMNAE-CURRENT SISTER CONNECTION

Continued

FROM: LAUREN LO
CONTACT: laurenlo@mit.edu
Looking for a summer internship in either NY, NJ, MD, or Boston as a mechanical engineer, specifically product design.

FROM: ANN ALAMPI
CONTACT: alampi@mit.edu
Looking for a summer internship relating to Earth Science and/or science policy.

FROM: AMY JACOBI
CONTACT: ajacobi@mit.edu
Looking for a summer internship in the fields of Urban Planning or Transportation anywhere in the US. Have experience at WMATA (DC’s Public Transit) and MAPC (Boston’s Regional Planning Assoc.)

FROM: JEAN FANG
CONTACT: jean_c.fang@gmail.com
Looking for an internship in Food Science/related to Chemical-Biological Engineering.

FROM: CHELSEA FINN
CONTACT: cfinn@mit.edu
Freshman looking for a summer internship in computer science, electrical engineering, or computational biology.

FROM: JESSICA LI
CONTACT: jess_li@mit.edu
Looking for a summer internship related to biological engineering in a company.

FROM: JAIMIE CHUNG
CONTACT: jychung@mit.edu
Looking for an internship in the fashion industry either with a designer or a stylist.

FROM: JENNIFER LI
CONTACT: jess_li@mit.edu
Looking for anyone to offer advice about becoming a doctor-going to medical school.

FROM: JESSICA HASKINS
CONTACT: jhaskins@mit.edu
Looking for a summer internship in alternative energy/material sciences. Any advice about Course 3/getting into the field is also greatly welcomed.

FROM: JOANIE WEAVER
CONTACT: jcweaver@mit.edu
Looking for a summer internship in environmental/energy research and projects. Looking for a summer internship near Chicago in engineering or science.

FROM: MICHELLE TEPLENSKY
CONTACT: mtep@mit.edu
Looking for an approx. 6 week summer internship in the fields of chemistry, biology or chemical/biological engineering in the NY tri state area (anywhere in/near Westchester County or New York City is preferable). Have prior lab experience.